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CENTRAL FAX CENTER NOV 1 4 2006

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 and 6 have been canceled. New claim 7 has been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 5 and 7 remain in the application. Reconsideration and reexamination is respectfully requested.

Support for new claim 7 may be found in the table on page 3 of the application (BIT2).

In the office action mailed 07/14/2006, claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,047,103 (Yamauchi et al.). Applicant respectfully traverses with respect to claim 5.

In claim 5 and in new claim 7, the header data permits the drive to send unencrypted sector data to a requestor. In Yamauchi et al., the drive is never permitted to send unencrypted sector data.

In Yamauchi et al., for one state of the attribute flag the drive must convert the digital data into video before being output (for example, column 8, lines 62-65). That is, what is sent is not the unencrypted sector data, but a transformation of the sector data. In another state, encrypted data is sent after authentication is successful (for example, column 8, lines 8-27).

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. This application is considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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